

STANDARDS & ETHICS COMMITTEE

15 October 2013

Present: Independent Members: Akmal Hanuk (Chairperson),
Maureen Hedley-Clarke, Deirdre Jones, Paul Stockton,
Richard Tebboth.

Councillors Kate Lloyd, Georgina Phillips, Dianne Rees,

Community Councillor John Hughes.

Also: James Downe (observer prior to commencement of his
term of office on 2 November 2013)

S7 : DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chairperson reminded Members of their responsibilities under Part III of the Members' Code of Conduct, to declare any interests in general terms and complete "personal interest" forms at the start of the meeting and then, prior to the commencement of the discussion of the item in question, specify whether it is a personal or prejudicial interest. If the interest is prejudicial, Members would be asked to leave the meeting, and if the interest is personal, but not prejudicial, Members would be invited to stay, speak and vote.

S8 : WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW MONITORING OFFICER

The Chairperson advised that his second term of office was due to end on 1 November 2013, this would be his last meeting as Chair and Independent Member of the Committee. The Chairperson thanked the Committee for their support and for the work they had undertaken. The Chairperson welcomed James Downe who was attending the Committee as an observer prior to commencement of his term of office on 2 November 2013.

The Chairperson welcomed the new County Clerk and Monitoring Officer Marie Rosenthal to the meeting.

Marie Rosenthal thanked the Chairperson and introduced herself to the Committee and gave a brief resume of her professional career prior to joining Cardiff Council, and advised the Committee she had found Cardiff

to be a very welcoming city however she was concerned about the unprecedented financial challenges facing the Council and added that the work to support Members in implementing savings would be very important.

Marie Rosenthal concluded saying she looked forward to working with the Standards and Ethics Committee in the future.

S8 : MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Standards and Ethics Committee held on 16 July 2013 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairperson.

S9 : REGISTER OF GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY

In accordance with the respective Codes of Conduct, Members and Officers are required to register the receipt of any gifts, hospitality or other benefits where the value of the item or benefits exceeds an amount determined by the Council from time to time, the threshold for receipt of gifts and hospitality was currently £25.00.

At it's meeting on 13 November 2013 the Committee were updated on the development of revised forms which, in accordance with a previous request from the Committee now made provision for Members to indicate the capacity in which they received gifts and/or hospitality. The Committee noted that the detail about capacity would be included in the schedule from January 2014.

The County Clerk and Monitoring Officer advised that it had been requested that Officers review occasions when the Council are giving as well as receiving gifts and hospitality, once this piece of work had been undertaken a report would be submitted to the Standards and Ethics Committee.

With regard to declarations by Officers details had not yet been finalised. It was noted that it would be appropriate for this information to be reported to the Senior Management Team.

RESOLVED – That the information provided on the schedule in respect of hospitality, gifts and other benefits received by Members during the period February 2013 – September 2013 be noted, it was agreed that Members would continue to receive this information on six monthly basis.

S10 : MONITORING OFFICER'S VERBAL UPDATE

Appointment of New Chair of Committee - The County Clerk and Monitoring advised of the need to appoint a new Chair of the Committee to take up post with effect from 1 November 2013 following the end of the term of office of the current Chair.

It was moved and seconded that Paul Stockton be appointed Chair of the Standards and Ethics Committee.

S11 : FORWARD PLAN 2013/14

Members of this Committee had met informally as part of a work programming forum on 19 September 2012 to discuss potential matters for consideration by the Committee in 2012/13 and for inclusion in a draft forward plan of future business. On 16 July 2013 the Committee suggested changes to the priorities and tasked Officers to update the Forward Plan to reflect the comments of the Committee.

Members suggested that the Chair of this Committee meet with the Chairs of the Constitution Committee, Democratic Services Committee and Audit Committee to discuss workloads to ensure there was no duplication and also to discuss training and development.

It was also suggested that Social Media and the Whistleblowing Policy be revisited as a priority and reported to the January 2014 meeting of this Committee.

RESOLVED – That having regard to the discussions at the meeting Officers be requested to update the work programme to reflect Members' comments and to report back to the next meeting of the Committee in January 2014..

S12 : VOTE OF THANKS

At the end of the meeting Paul Stockton recorded a vote of thanks from himself and Members of the Committee to Akmal Hanuk for his service on this Committee and for his hard work and support to the Committee during his term of office.

Akmal thanked Paul and the Committee for their kind words and their support over the past years and wished everyone well in the new year.

The Meeting Closed at 5.30 pm